



NEWS RELEASE

Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests & Thunder Basin National Grassland

Date: January 24, 2011

Contact: Laramie Ranger District, 307-745-2300
Sara Alberts, Forester, 307-745-2338
Aaron Voos, Public Affairs, 307-745-2323

Anticipated Road Closures and Project Activities Across Laramie Ranger District

(Laramie, Wyo.) January 24, 2011 – This winter and spring, many existing forest management projects will continue and new projects will be implemented across the Laramie Ranger District of the Medicine Bow National Forest. Projects include fuels reduction, hazard tree removal from roadsides and campgrounds, as well as thinning.

The bulk of the work will be in the southern portion of the Snowy Range, although crews will be working on projects throughout the Laramie Ranger District.

Visitors should be aware that this is a very active program of work. Some detours, delays, and temporary road closures will be necessary. Travel delays, limited access and limited motorized recreational opportunities are likely for some visitors. Visitors may encounter logging machinery in contract areas and log trucks along National Forest System Roads. Do not enter areas which are posted closed, as they are closed for public safety.

Please be aware that contract operations may affect snowmobile trails near the project areas. Work will generally be accomplished during weekdays, but some efforts may occur on weekends and holidays. The Forest Service apologizes for any inconvenience that this work may cause to visitors, however, the projects are essential to maintain long-term access and public safety. Every effort will be made to limit public inconvenience and it should be noted that the vast majority of National Forest lands will be unaffected.

Page two of this news release includes a numbered list of projects and locations (See attached PDF). Only the main road locations are identified, but other roads near projects may be affected. Project locations are displayed on a map for easy reference (Page 3).

Please call the Laramie Ranger District office at 307-745-2300 to inquire about current conditions and to check the status of work in the area of planned visits.

This work is generally being done in response to impacts from the mountain pine beetle epidemic. Efforts will reduce hazards to visitors, private land owners and Forest Service employees.

In addition, visitors need to be aware that the mountain pine beetle epidemic has increased the risk of falling trees. Trees impacted by the beetles appear red or have no needles. Green trees left after fuels reduction or hazard tree removal treatments are also susceptible to windthrow due to removal of the trees around them. Remember to look up, look down and look around before setting up camps or parking vehicles under dead trees. Please be aware of the surroundings while visiting areas affected by the epidemic.

***Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests and Thunder Basin National Grassland
2468 Jackson Street, Laramie, Wyoming 82070
<http://fs.usda.gov/mb>***

List of Laramie Ranger District Projects

1. West Devils POL (Products Other than Logs) Timber Sale
NFSR 506, NFSR 512, NFSR 511, NFSR 500, Highway 11 – *Operations to resume June 2011*
2. FHTR (Forest Hazard Tree Removal) Ted's Bridge 512 Road Stewardship Contract Task Order
NFSR 512, Highway 230 – *Work to begin summer 2011, Anticipated Road Closure*
3. FHTR Albany 500 Road Stewardship Contract Task Order
NFSR 500, Highway 11 – *Hauling and slash cleanup operations to resume spring/summer 2011, short delays on NFSR 500 possible*
4. Strain Creek Stewardship Contract
NFSR 517, NFSR 513, NFSR 500, Fox Creek Road, Highway 11 – *Ongoing operations*
5. Lake Owen Decks #1 and #2
NFSR 540, NFSR 517, Fox Creek Road – *Hauling anticipated to begin May 2011*
6. FHTR 517 Road Dry Fox Stewardship Task Order
NFSR 517, from Foxpark to NFSR 513 – *Ongoing Operations, anticipated intermittent Road Closures summer 2011*
7. FHTR 512 Road Arctic Fox Stewardship Task Order
NFSR 512, from NFSR 504 to NFSR 509 at Lake Creek – *Ongoing operations and snow plowing; Daily road closure/T-trail closure M-F, 7am to 5pm; Winter work anticipated to be complete by March 2011; Minimal slash cleanup work in spring/summer 2011 with no anticipated traffic delays*
8. FHTR 512 Road Gray Fox Stewardship Task Order
NFSR 512, Foxpark to NFSR 504 – *Work anticipated to begin June 2011, possible daily road closure*
9. Somber Hill WUI (Wildland Urban Interface) Fuels Reduction Project
NFSR 512, NFSR 515, NFSR 530, NFSR 544, NFSR 544A, Highway 230 – *Current operations in the Miller Lake area, anticipated to move to Foxborough or Foxpark next if winter operating conditions allow*
10. FY 2009 Pre-commercial Thinning Contract
NFSR 530, NFSR 516 – *Hand falling work to resume summer 2011, no impact to road travel*
11. WyColo WUI (Wildland Urban Interface) Fuels Reduction Project
NFSR 501, NFSR 526, NFSR 898C, NFSR 898F, Highway 230 – *Operations to resume June 2011*
12. Carbon Power & Light Hazard Tree Removal Settlement Sale
Highway 230, NFSR 512, NFSR 543, District-wide – *T-trail re-route at Tic's parking lot, Current operations along Highway 230, anticipated to be complete in Hwy. 230 area by March 2011*
13. WyDOT Highway 230 Hazard Tree Removal
Highway 230 – *Work anticipated to begin late spring or summer 2011*
14. Sixmile Stewardship Contract
NFSR 516, NFSR 521, NFSR 898
15. FHTR 518/520 Road Gramm Stewardship Task Order
NFSR 520, NFSR 549, NFSR 518 – *Work anticipated to begin March 2011 and be completed spring 2011, expect road closures winter/spring 2011 and possible traffic delays early summer for cleanup operations*
16. Bark Beetle Tree Spraying
District Wide, Mainly Campgrounds – *Anticipated June 2011 for approximately 1 week, some Campgrounds will be closed for 24 hours during spraying*

Please note that the project numbers correspond with the numbers on the map.



**Current and Anticipated
Forest Management Contract Activity
Reference Location Map**

Laramie Ranger District,
Medicine Bow-Routt
National Forests

Updated 1/20/2011

